



Putting

Families First



Welcome!



Wendy Henderson
Administrator



John Elliott
Deputy Administrator



A top-down view of several hands of different skin tones holding white rectangular cards on a wooden floor. The hands are arranged in a circle, and the cards are also arranged in a circle, some overlapping. The background is a dark blue overlay.

Vision

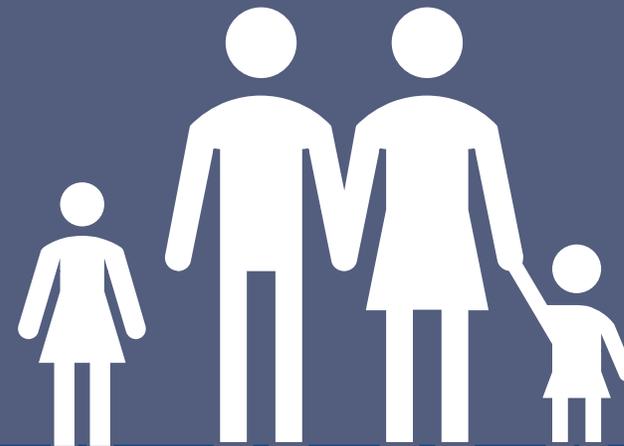
All Wisconsin children and youth are safe and loved members of thriving families and communities.

**We strive for justice in the
child welfare system
through addressing
systemic oppression,
inequity and racism.**

More than 1 in 10 children in Wisconsin are living below the federal poverty line.



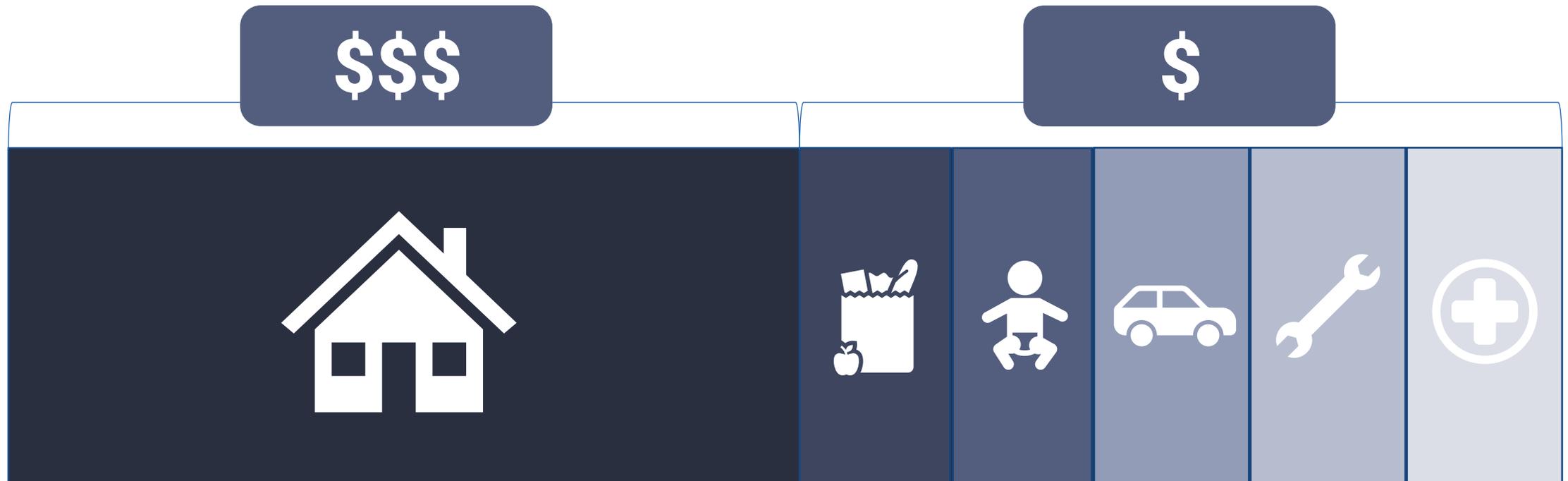
\$27,479



1 in 3 households in Wisconsin face significant economic challenges.

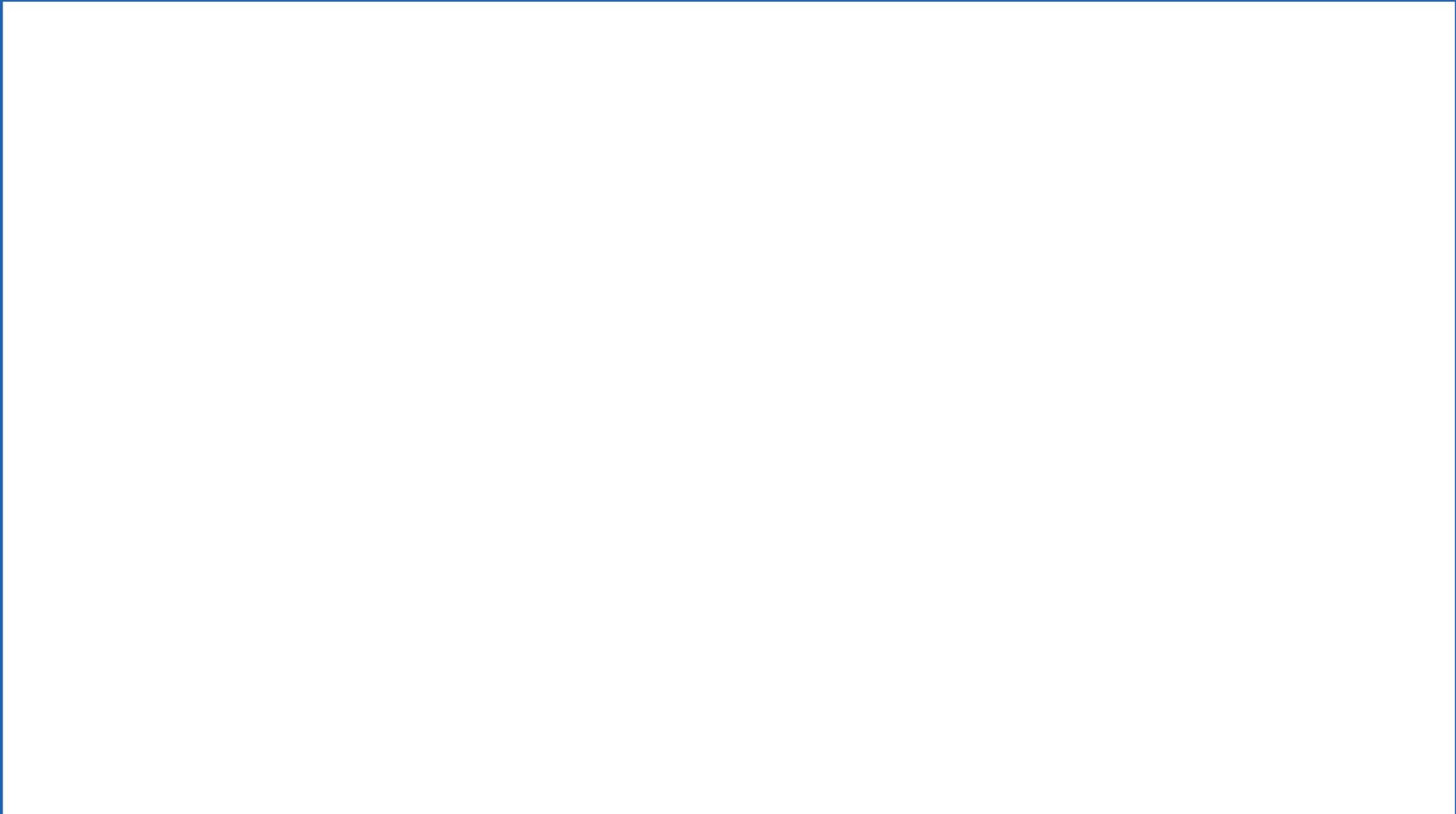


87% of extremely low-income households have a high housing cost burden.



Families carry





A group of diverse children, including a boy with a beard, a girl with blonde hair, a girl with dark hair, a girl with dark skin, and a boy with dark skin, are huddled together and smiling. They are looking up at the camera. The background is bright and slightly blurred.

**This transformation
is changing lives.**

KEY



DCF allocated significant new funding to Targeted Safety Support across the state



TSSF Participating Tribal Child Welfare Agency

The circles represent the location of the seats of government and not the actual tribal land areas.
For a map of the land areas, please see:
http://www.judicare.org/Content/Map_of_Wisconsin_Indian_Tribes.cfm



Intensive In-Home Services



Youth Justice



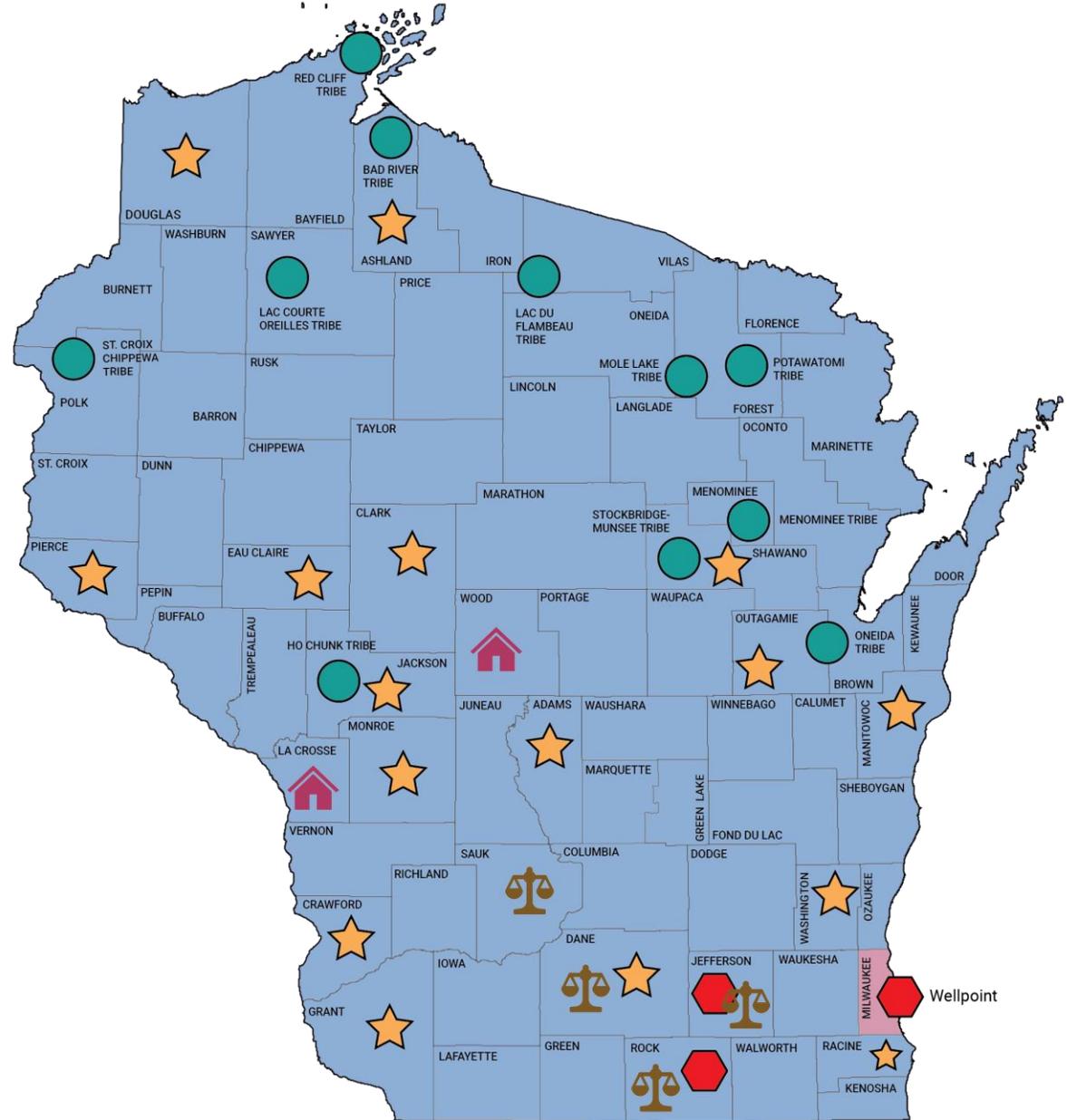
Parents Supporting Parents



Housing Pilot Sites



Family Legal Advocacy and Supports



More than

3500 children

have been served with TSSF.



77%

never experienced removal



Supporting families in home.



Targeted Safety Support Funds (TSSF)

Next steps . . .

- Expansion of TSSF:
 - Title IV-E revenue to expand program participation and service utilization.
 - Agencies that are not currently contracted TSSF will be able to receive funds for TSSF.
- Continuous quality improvement.



4.5

fewer children removed per day compared to 2017.



Family Keys



A community-centered partnership to address housing-related child welfare barriers.



Partnering communities are developing action plans so that families have more stable housing, fewer child removals, or shorter stays in out of home care.



Participating counties have identified community-specific responses to stabilize families and are partnering to identify long-term, systemic improvements for implementation in 2023.



Youth Justice Innovation Grants

Supporting families in their
homes by



Expanding community-based
services.



Strengthening partnerships with
schools, law enforcement, courts,
and service providers.



Collaborating to understand and
address racial disparities.





**Keeping children in
family settings.**

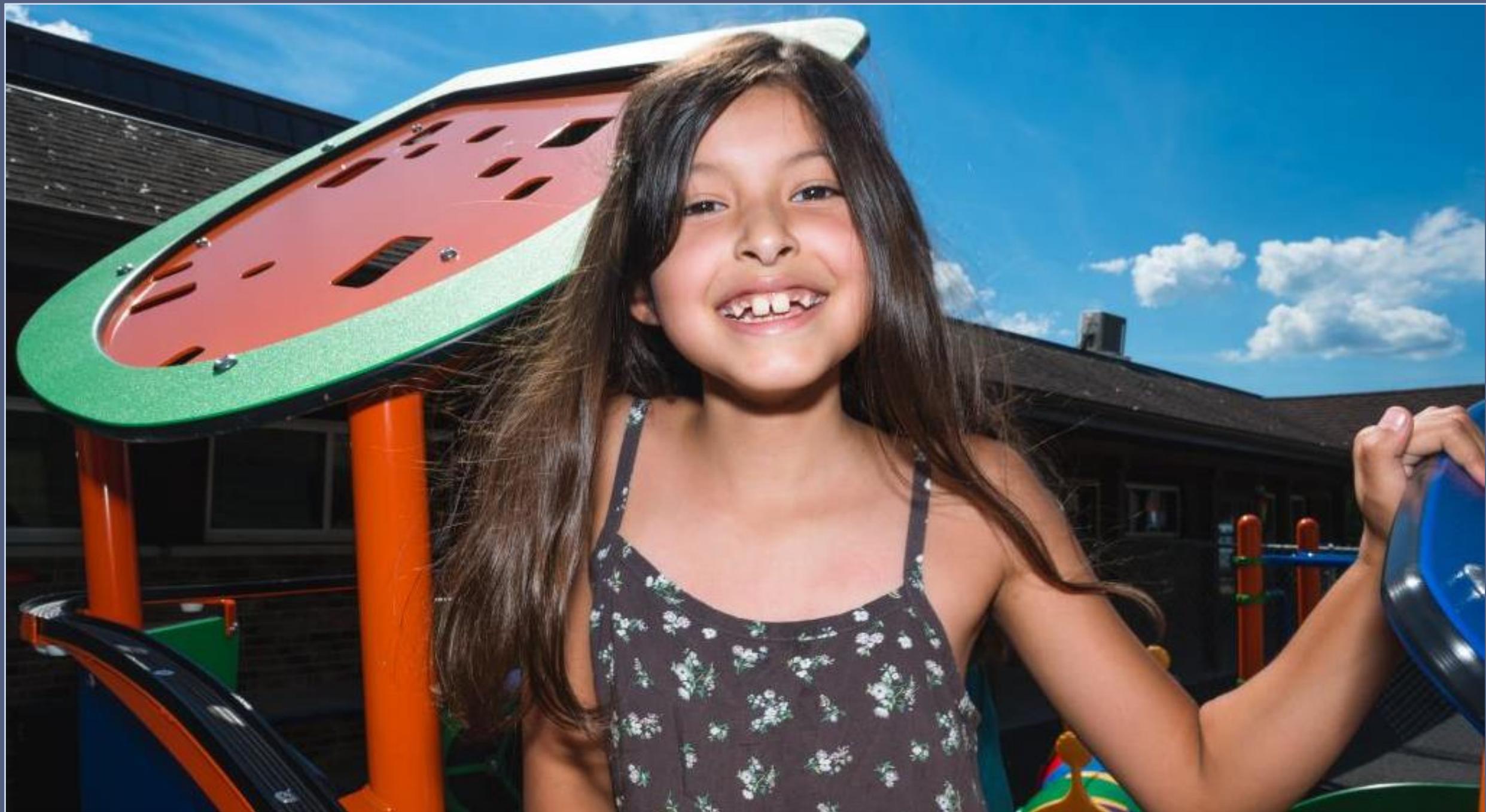


Kinship Consultation

Met in August with tribal leaders to focus on supporting relatives.

- Some key themes:
 - Relatives need **additional financial support**.
 - Increase **equitable** support/parity with foster care
 - Relatives and agencies need **administrative burdens reduced**.
 - Forum for **continued conversation** needed.





Announcing: New Funding of \$7.5 Million



Est. \$3 million for community-based treatment level foster care solutions.



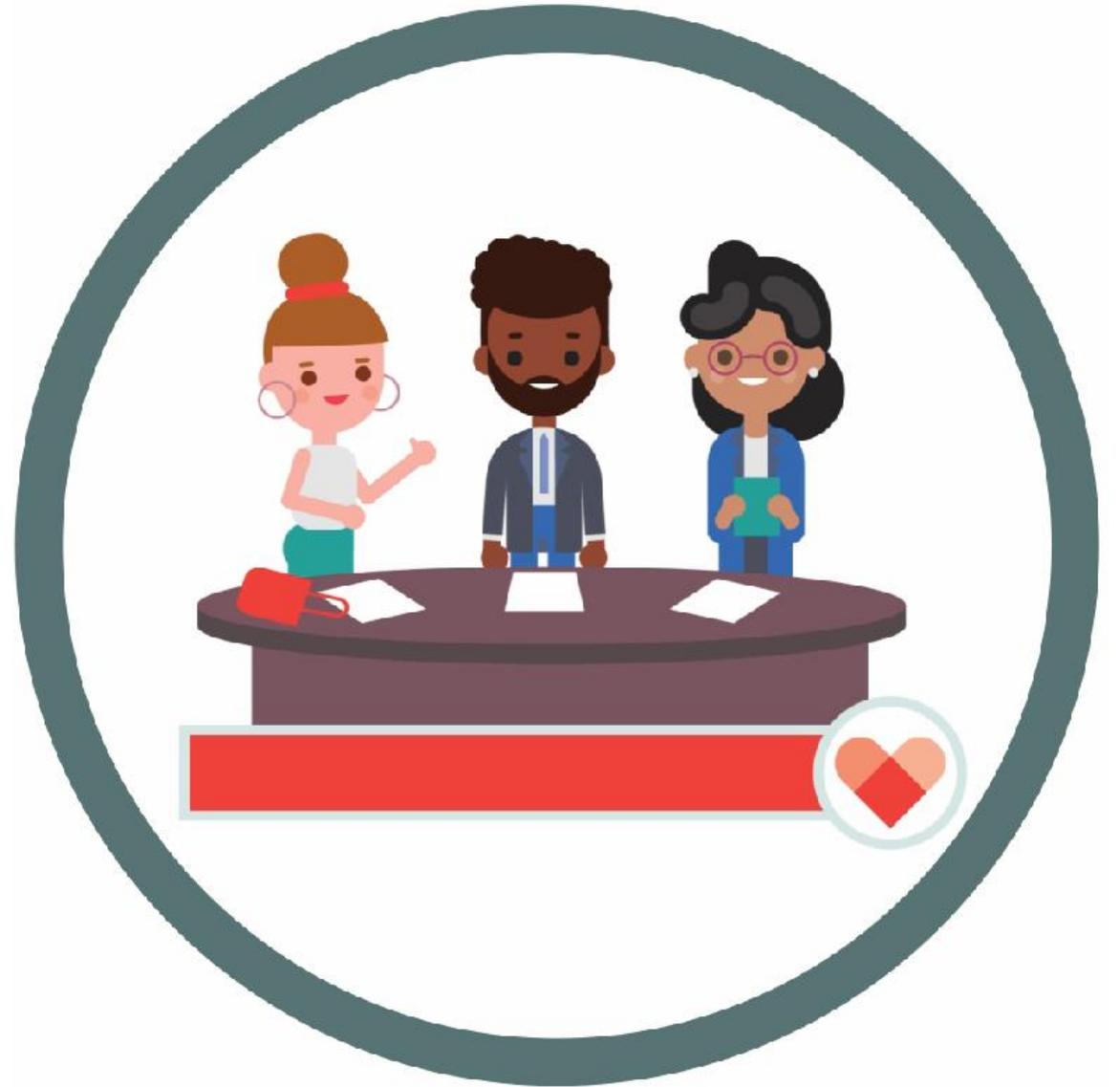
Est. \$2-3 million for enhanced Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP) solutions for specialized populations.



Est. \$1 million for a Group Care Clearinghouse.



**Supporting our
workforce.**



Child Welfare Professional Training



WiLearn

A new model of initial training for newly hired CPS professionals.

- To **improve** the overall learning experience and better prepare our workforce.
- **Reduced** caseload requirement and **increased** local agency support.
- Toolkit will be able available for supervisors, mentors, lead staff, and coaches.
- Implementation and delivery in **early 2023**.



Safety Revisions



Objectives:

Revisions to the safety assessment and planning process.

Revisions to the danger threat language.

... to be culturally responsive, equitable and just.

- Rolled out language changes to danger threats in June.
- Where we're heading:
 - Additional recommendations for revising the safety assessment and planning process (using feedback);
 - Using data to inform decisions;
 - and identifying opportunities for feedback in 2023.



Family Legal Advocacy and Supports (FLAS)



FLAS aims to:

Provide **quality legal advocacy** and supports for families, with a focus on family law and civil legal representation.

- Establishment of a multidisciplinary team.
- Meetings with counties to identify legal needs.
- Determined program eligibility criteria for services:
 - There is no active TPC or CHIPS case;
 - The individual or family has an unmet need for civil legal services;
 - and participation in the program is voluntary.
- Launched the FLAS in September.



Updated Federal Guidance: Child Support

- Research demonstrates: **not cost-effective.**¹



Against a child's best interest.



Likely already living in poverty.



Family instability and separation.



Impedes reunification.

- Coordinate with local child support agencies.

¹Administration for Children and Families. "Joint Letter Regarding the Assignment of Rights to Child Support for Children in Foster Care." July 29, 2022. Washington, D.C. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/letter_regarding_assignment_rights_child_support_for_children_foster_care.pdf.



Putting Families First Communication Toolbox

For these resources, visit:

www.dcf.wisconsin.gov/family-first/toolbox.



Town halls



Video



One-pagers



Case flows



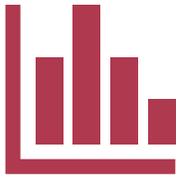
Putting Families First Playbook



Let's keep this momentum going!



Have conversations with your partners.



Check out the data.



Keep doing the **amazing work** you do!



Questions?



Thank you!

Have additional questions? Don't hesitate to reach out!

Putting Families First

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